

Strictly Confidential.

2, No. 5

The Palace,

Bangalore,

31st August 1918.

Archives
Sections

I received and submitted to His Highness your letter of the 29th inst. regarding the cancellation of the communication made by the Chief Secretary to the President of the Committee for the management of Varimallappa's High School.

2. You are well aware of the circumstances under which His Highness thought that a suggestion might be offered to the Committee to extend the services of Mr. Venkatakrishniya by a short period if they had no objection to its adoption. Mr. Venkatakrishniya's request to grant him an enhanced pension is not a question that could be solved easily. Enhancing the grant sanctioned to Varimallappa's Institution for the special purpose of enhancing the pension of its retiring headmaster would not only be a distinct violation of the rules regulating the grants-in-aid but will also be a unique procedure unsupported by a single precedent and His Highness the Maharaja was not prepared to pass orders without ascertaining His Highness the Maharaja's views in the matter. The papers were accordingly sent up to His Highness for submission of the same to His Highness the Maharaja. As it was expected that some time would elapse before a decision could be arrived at, the Committee were asked if they could conveniently extend Mr. Venkatakrishniya's term of office. It was never intended by His Highness that the Committee should be compelled to act up to the suggestion of Government if they felt disinclined to accept it, for it would be unfair to enforce its acceptance as a matter of right simply because the school happens to be a grant-in-aid Institution.

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3. Now that His Highness the Maharaja's views are known and the decision of several questions connected with Mr. Venkatakrishtnaiya can be arrived at at once, I am directed to observe that no object will be attained by adhering to the suggestion made in the Chief Secretary's letter of the 29th July for a couple of months' extension. Mr. Mirza . Ismail has clearly noted His Highness the Maharaja's orders as regards the recommendation made for granting increased pension to Mr. Venkatakrishtnaiya. An extension of the period of his services would, in His Highness's opinion, merely be an inducement for him to entertain greater hopes of Government granting his prayer and nothing would disappoint Mr. Venkatakrishtnaiya more than noncompliance with his request after insisting on the Committee to retain his services for sometime longer against their wishes.

4. It was after mature consideration of all aspects of the case that His Highness directed me to request you to kindly ask the Chief Secretary to write to the President of the Committee to consider his letter as cancelled on the ground that the reasons which prompted Government to make the suggestion no longer exist. Considering however the altered circumstances of the situation, His Highness now thinks that it would be sufficient if the Chief Secretary simply wires to Mr. Denham to the effect that on reconsideration Government do not consider that there is any necessity to extend Mr. Venkatakrishtnaiya's services any further. Government need not formally cancel or withdraw their letter. His Highness has no doubt that you will agree that it is the best possible course to adopt.

5. With reference to your letters dated the 30th and 31st instant, I am directed to say that at the present moment

nothing need be said or done by Government committing themselves to any opinion about the interference of the District Judge.

5. His Highness will be obliged if action is kindly taken as indicated above by sending a telegram to Mr. Denham.

MS
31/5/29

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, M.C.I.E.,

Dewan of Mysore,

Bangalore.